

Message Text

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ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 OPR-02 CCO-00 SS-15
OC-06 CPR-01 USSS-00 SY-05 NSCE-00 PA-01 /042 W
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O R 242310Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6766
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
USIA WASHDC
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 2362

USIA FOR PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE IOP

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY) PGOV, BR US
SUBJECT: BRIEFING MATERIALS FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT TO
BRAZIL- PRESS GUIDANCE -QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR MRS. CARTER

REF: A. 77 BRASILIA 8610, B. BRASILIA 1533

1. WE WILL FORWARD THE NAMES OF PARTICIPANTS IN MRS. CARTER'S
MEETING WITH THE PRESS AND SCENARIO DETAILS FOR THE EVENT AS SOON
AS ARRANGEMENTS ARE FIRM LATER THIS WEEKEND OR MONDAY.

2. MEETING MIGHT BEGIN WITH REMARKS BY MRS. CARTER ABOUT THE
GENERAL APPROACH OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION TO RELATIONS WITH LATIN
AMERICA, WITH EMPHASIS ON PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE ASPECTS. THIS COULD
LEAD INTO REFERENCE TO PARTNERS OF THE AMERICA PROGRAM AND THE
GEORGIA-PERNAMBUCO PROGRAM SPECIFICALLY (NOTE: THE PERNAMBUCO
PARTNERS ASKED FOR A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER DURING HIS
STAY; THIS HAS PROVEN IMPOSSIBLE BUT THEY WOULD APPRECIATE SOME
REFERENCE TO THEIR PROGRAM BY MRS. CARTER).

THE ROLE OF THE PEACE CORPS HERE COULD ALSO BE MENTIONED IN THIS
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PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CONTEXT. (AT PRESENT, THERE ARE 165 PEACE CORPS
VOLUNTEER SERVING IN TEN BRAZILIAN STATES AND THE FEDERAL DISTRICT,
MANY OF THEM IN THE COMPARABLY UNDERDEVELOPED NORTHEAST).

MRS. CARTER MIGHT ALSO VOLUNTEER SOME MENTION OF HER IMPRESSIONS
OF HER LAST VISIT HERE-INCLUDING TALKS WITH PRESIDENT GEISEL--
AND REFER TO HER PLEASURE AT BEING ABLE TO RETURN. IN THIS CONTEXT,

SHE COULD SPEAK OF HER MEETING THE PREVIOUS AFTERNOON WITH MINISTER OF HEALTH AND HER INTERESTING DISCUSSION OF BRAZILIAN AND US APPROACHES TO THE MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM.

3. AS FOR QUESTIONS WHICH MIGHT BE RAISED, MRS. CARTER MIGHT WELL GET A QUESTION ABOUT HER MEETING WITH THE TWO AMERICAN MISSIONARIES IN RECIFE DURING HER VISIT LAST YEAR, INCLUDING A QUERY AS TO WHOSE IDEA IT WAS. WE SUGGEST SHE REPLY AS FOLLOWS: I MADE THE DECISION TO SEE FATHER ROSEBAUGH AND MR. CAPUANO ENTIRELY ON MY OWN. THEY REQUESTED A CHANCE TO SPEAK WITH ME AND I FELT THAT, AS THE WIFE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, I HAD AN OBLIGATION TO MEET WITH THE TWO AND DISCUSS THE TREATMENT THEY HAD RECEIVED DURING AND AFTER THEIR ARREST.

4. GIVEN THE SHORT TIME ALLOWED FOR PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE, EMBASSY EXPECTS THAT SOME QUESTIONS WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE BE PUT TO HIM WILL BE PUT TO MRS. CARTER. THESE ARE COVERED IN REFTELS.

5. IN ADDITION, MRS. CARTER MIGHT WELL BE ASKED SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE IN BRAZIL AS FOLLOWS:

--Q. WHY IS YOUR HUSBAND PLANNING TO MEET WITH CARDINAL ARNS AND WHAT WILL HE DISCUSS WITH HIM?

A. JIMMY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY, AND PRIVILEGE, OF SHARING THE SPEAKERS PLATFORM WITH CARDINAL ARNS WHEN THEY WERE HONORED FOR THEIR CONFIDENTIAL

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HUMANITARIAN WORKS BY THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME LAST SPRING. CARDINAL ARNS IS DEEPLY CONCERNED WITH MANY ISSUES, INCLUDING HUMAN RIGHTS, THAT ARE OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE NOT ONLY TO JIMMY'S ADMINISTRATION, BUT TO ALL MANKIND. JIMMY LOOKS FORWARD TO RECEIVING HIS THOUGHTFUL OPINIONS, AS HE DOES THOSE OF OTHER BRAZILIANS WITH WHOM HE WILL BE MEETING DURING THE COURSE OF HIS VISIT HERE.

--Q. PRESIDENT CARTER WILL BE MEETING IN RIO WITH A NUMBER OF BRAZILIANS FROM OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT. HOW WERE THE PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MEETING SELECTED?

A. BRAZIL, LIKE THE UNITED STATES, IS AN ENORMOUS

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O R 242310Z MAR 78
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BRASILIA 2362

COUNTRY WITH A COMPLEX, VARIEGATED SOCIETY. WE FELT THAT WE
COULD INCREASE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE CURRENT SITUATION IN
BRAZIL AND THE DESIRES AND WISHES OF THE BRAZILIAN PEOPLE BY
MEETING WITH PEOPLE FROM NON-OFFICIAL CIRCLES AS WELL AS THROUGH
OUR CONTACTS WITH MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT. SO WE DECIDED TO
INVITE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE TO MEET WITH JIMMY IN RIO, PEOPLE
IMPORTANT IN VARIOUS FIELDS, FOR INFORMAL EXCHANGES JUST PRIOR TO
OUR DEPARTURE.

--Q. WHY IS PRESIDENT CARTER MEETING WITH GENERAL FIGUEIREDO?
A. GENERAL FIGUEIREDO WAS AN INVITED GUEST AT PRESIDENT GEISEL'S
DINNER PARTY, AND THE TWO HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONVERSE BRIEFLY
THERE.

--Q. WHY ISN'T PRESIDENT CARTER GOING TO MEET WITH SENATOR MAGALHAES
PINTO?
A. JIMMY DID IN FACT MEET WITH SENATOR MAGALHAES PINTO JUST ONE
HOUR AGO, WHEN WE ENTERED THE CONGRESS BUILDING. BUT THE LIMITATIONS
OF OUR SCHEDULE, THE SHORT TIME WE WILL BE IN BRASILIA, PREVENTED
US FROM CONVERSING AT LENGTH WITH MANY PEOPLE WHOSE THOUGHTS AND
OPINIONS WE VALUE HIGHLY.

6. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS HAVE SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF THE
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FOLLOWING
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

--Q. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE RECENT ARREST OF 11 PERSONS
IN THE STATE OF PARANA? DO YOU THINK THAT IS FURTHER PROOF OF
HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN BRAZIL?

A. I DO NOT FEEL THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO COMMENT
ON THIS MATTER.

--Q. HAVE THE RESULTS OF PRESIDENT GEISEL'S RECENT VISIT TO GERMANY IN ANYWAY AFFECTED THE OUTCOME OF YOUR HUSBAND'S VISIT HERE?

A. NO. JIMMY CAME TO ENGAGE PRESIDENT GIESEL IN A CANDID DIALOG ABOUT OUR PERSPECTIVES ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES. THE MEETING YESTERDAY PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THAT KIND OF DIALOG; WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THEY WILL CONTINUE IN THE SAME VEIN TODAY. JIMMY WANTS TO EMPHASIZE THAT WE ENJOY CLOSE RELATIONS, INDEED WARM RELATIONS, WITH BOTH BRAZIL AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. NOTHING THAT TRANSPIRED DURING PRESIDENT GEISEL'S HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL VISIT IN ANYWAY CHANGES THAT ROCKBOUND TRADITION OF FRIENDSHIP THE US AND BRAZIL AND GERMANS AND AMERICANS ENJOY.

--Q. WOULD YOU CARE TO COMMENT ON THE SELECTION OF GENERAL FIGUEIREDO AS SUCCESSOR TO PRESIDENT GEISEL?

A. IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR ME TO COMMENT ON THE PERSONALITIES INVOLVED IN YOUR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. WE LOOK FORWARD, HOWEVER, TO CONTINUING THE DIALOG WE HAVE ENJOYED WITH PRESIDENT GEISEL, WITH HIS SUCCESSOR. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE LONGSTANDING AND TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL WILL PERMIT THE SAME FRANK AND CANDID EXCHANGE OF IDEAS WITH THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF BRZIL AS IT HAS WITH PRESIDENT GEISEL.

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